

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Niel F. STARKSEN

Application No.: 10/656,797

Confirmation No.: 7101

Filed: September 4, 2003

Art Unit: 3734

For: DEVICES AND METHODS FOR CARDIAC
ANNULUS STABILIZATION AND
TREATMENT

Examiner: K. Dowe

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated September 17, 2009, for which a response is due on December 17, 2009. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is submitted concurrently herewith. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.